The Cleveland Museum of Art

Press Release

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PHARAOHS SCHOOL TOURS BOOKED SOLID
Plans finalized for a variety of public events for all ages

(Cleveland, OH) -- With the opening of **Pharaohs: Treasures of Egyptian Art from the Louvre** less than a week away, the Cleveland Museum of Art announced today that all time slots for school group tours, weekdays 9:30-11:00 am, have been filled. About 55 schools, representing 3,000 school children, have booked tours for this exhibition (February 11-April 14, 1996). Demand for additional school tours of the exhibition is being met by fitting groups into other times of the day at a modest charge. The remaining weekday hours set aside to accommodate large groups are also filling rapidly.

The museum's departments of ancient art and education and public programs, anticipating the popularity of the **Pharaohs** exhibition with the general public and with scholars, have planned an array of lectures, family programs, and films--mostly free--to meet the interests of all ages.

Inspired by the success of the learning center for **African Zion: The Sacred Art of Ethiopia** last fall, the education department has created an indoor "archaeology camp." There, against the backdrop of painted wall murals depicting the Egyptian landscape and Queen Nefertari's tomb walls, visitors may interpret and make rubbings of hieroglyphic inscriptions and learn about famous archaeologists and how they worked. During supervised excavation activities, Sundays 1:30-4:30 and Wednesdays 4:30-7:00, visitors may actually dig for buried artifacts in a sand trench, sifting through the soil and recording their findings just as professional archaeologists do.

Additional drop-in family programs are offered every Sunday afternoon for the run of the **Pharaohs** exhibition at 1:30-4:30 (except 18/Feb and 17/Mar, 3:00-4:30); in these workshops, people of all ages can create their own art inspired by Egyptian treasures.

The adult lecture series has been finalized for five Wednesday evenings at 6 pm:

(more . . .)

11150 EAST BOULEVARD, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106-1797
TEL 216-421-7340 TDD 216-421-0018 FAX 216-421-0411

13/Mar	*Digging Up the Past: The Rediscovery of Ancient Egypt.* Barbara A. Kathman
20/Mar	*Queens of the Nile.* Arielle P. Kozloff
27/Mar	*Faces of Pharaohs: Images of Royalty in Ancient Egypt.* Lawrence M. Berman
3/Apr	*Living the High Life: Daily Life of Courtly Egypt.* Barbara A. Kathman
10/Apr	*In Vogue in Ancient Egypt: Keeping Up with the Pharaohs.* Barbara A. Kathman

Kent R. Weeks, the Egyptologist gaining international recognition for his recent archaeological work in the tomb of the sons of Ramesses the Great in the Valley of the Kings, will lecture at the museum on Tuesday evening, March 26, at 7 pm. Weeks is Director of the Theban Mapping Project and Professor of Egyptology, The American University in Cairo. Tickets for this lecture are $10, and are available at all Advantix outlets or at the museum box office, or by calling Advantix at 241-6000 or 1-800-766-6048. A conference on Saturday, March 9, will offer the latest information about Egyptian art from other leading Egyptologists. (Register for the conference by calling the museum at 216/421-7340, ext. 464; admission is $30.)

The 80-minute film *The City Louvre* is an unprecedented look behind the scenes at the great art museum that has lent its Egyptian works to Cleveland for the **Pharaohs** exhibition. It was shot immediately after the unveiling of the Louvre's modern glass pyramid entrance, and during the ongoing major restoration process of which the Egyptian gallery renovation is the final stage. *The City Louvre* will be shown Sunday, March 24, at 3 pm (admission $4). Additional free films about Egypt, pharaohs, and Egyptology will be shown on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 12:30.

For more information about these and other programs complementing the **Pharaohs** exhibition, call the museum at 216/421-7340.

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Pharaohs: Treasures of Egyptian Art from the Louvre was organized by the Cleveland Museum of Art in collaboration with the department of Egyptian antiquities, Musée du Louvre, Paris. The exhibition is sponsored by Society Bank/KeyCorp with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and the Ohio Arts Council. Promotional support is provided by WDOK 102.1 FM and AM 850 WRMR, and The Avenue at Tower City Center.

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